

## Message Text

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21

ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SIG-01 IO-13 OMB-01 ACDA-07

MC-02 AID-05 IGA-02 /121 R

DRAFTED BY PM/DCA:MRARIETTI:RG

APPROVED BY PM:JGOODBY

PM/DCA - MR. BAKER

NEA- MR. SEMAKIS

EA - L. MCNUTT; S/S:PSEBASTIAN

AF - MR. STRAUS

EUR- A. HUGHES

H - MR. GELBER

C - MR. MONTGOMERY

S/P - MR. THORNTON

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R 031339Z DEC 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMCONSUL KARACHI  
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY MASERU  
AMEMBASSY MBABANE  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY SANA  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION NATO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA  
USLO PEKING  
AMEMBASSY RANGOON  
CINCPAC  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT BY POUCH  
AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, XO

SUBJECT: REPORT TO CONGRESS ON INDIAN OCEAN ARMS  
LIMITATIONS

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF UNCLASSIFIED REPORT TO CONGRESS ON ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION WITH RESPECT TO BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION ON ARMS LIMITATIONS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. IN THE 1976 INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT, CONGRESS HAD URGED THE ADMINISTRATION TO BEGIN SUCH NEGOTIATIONS AND REQUIRED THAT IT SUBMIT A REPORT ON ITS ACTIONS BY DECEMBER 1, 1976. THE REPORT WAS TRANSMITTED DECEMBER 1 TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND TO SENATOR CULVER WHO HAS A PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THIS SUBJECT.

2. BEGIN TEXT: THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH HAS CONTINUED TO CONSIDER THE QUESTION OF ARMS LIMITATIONS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA. AS WAS STATED IN THE REPORT SUBMITTED TO SEVERAL COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS ON APRIL 15, 1976, IT IS CLEARLY NOT IN OUR INTEREST THAT THIS REGION BECOME A THEATER OF CONTENTION AND RIVALRY. WE NOTED THEN THAT WHILE WE WOULD KEEP OPEN THE MATTER OF A POSSIBLE FUTURE AMERICAN ARMS LIMITATION INITIATIVE, WE DID NOT PERCEIVE SUCH AN INITIATIVE TO BE IN THE U.S. INTEREST AT THAT TIME. IN THE PERIOD SINCE APRIL 15, 1976, THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, WHILE FULLY RECOGNIZING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT WE SHOULD UNDERTAKE TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION INTENDED TO ACHIEVE AN AGREEMENT LIMITING U.S.-SOVIET MILITARY DEPLOYMENTS IN THAT REGION, DID NOT JUDGE THAT CIRCUMSTANCES WERE APPROPRIATE FOR AN AMERICAN INITIATIVE OF THIS TYPE.

IT IS CLEAR THAT ANY AMERICAN ARMS LIMITATION INITIATIVE MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT, AMONG OTHER CONSIDERATIONS, THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE SOVIET UNION IS CURRENTLY FOLLOWING A POLICY OF RESTRAINT IN THE LARGER REGIONAL AREA. IN  
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THIS REGARD, WE NOTE THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS BEEN SHARPLY CRITICAL OF US-UK EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. THE EXPANSION OF SOVIET FACILITIES IN SOMALIA HAS STEADILY CONTINUED. THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THE PRESENCE OF SOVIET-SUPPLIED CUBAN TROOPS IN ANGOLA WILL BE PHASED OUT IN A REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME.

SINCE APRIL 15 THE SOVIET UNION HAS NOT INDICATED THAT IT IS PREPARED TO ENTER INTO A SERIOUS BILATERAL DISCUSSION OF ARMS LIMITATIONS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN REGION. MOST RECENTLY AT THE UNITED NATIONS, FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO CALLED FOR THE ELIMINATION OF INDIAN OCEAN MILITARY "BASES." HE WENT ON TO CLAIM THAT MOSCOW HAS NEVER HAD ANY INTENTION OF BUILDING BASES IN THE AREA. HOWEVER,

THE EXTENT OF SOVIET MILITARY FACILITIES IN SOMALIA IS WELL-KNOWN. THIS SOVIET POSITION IS ONE-SIDED AND THEREFORE SUGGESTS A PROPAGANDISTIC APPROACH TO THE OVERALL ARMS LIMITATION QUESTION.

THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH FIRMLY SUPPORTS THE GOAL OF AVOIDING A COMPETITIVE EXPANSION OF SOVIET AND AMERICAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA. WE HAVE FOLLOWED AND WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW A POLICY OF RESTRAINT. WE HOPE THAT THE SOVIET UNION WILL FOLLOW A SIMILAR POLICY OF RESTRAINT IN ITS MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA AND ABSTAIN FROM EXPANSIONIST ACTIVITIES AS A SIGN THAT IT TOO SUPPORTS THIS GOAL. THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP OPEN THE MATTER OF A POSSIBLE INDIAN OCEAN ARMS LIMITATION INITIATIVE. END TEXT.

3. ACTION ADDRESSEES MAY AT THEIR DISCRETION TAKE INITIATIVE OF PROVIDING COPY OF REPORT TO HOST GOVERNMENTS. ALL ADDRESSEES ARE AUTHORIZED TO DRAW ON REPORT TO RESPOND TO HOST GOVERNMENT QUERRIES.

4. FOR LONDON, CANBERRA, AND WELLINGTON: DEPARTMENT IS PASSING COPIES OF REPORT TO BRITISH, AUSTRALIAN, AND NEW ZEALAND EMBASSIES. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, TEXT, NEGOTIATIONS, ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** MRARIETTI:RG  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 23 APR 2004  
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04 MAY 2006

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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**TAGS:** PARM, XO, US, UR  
**To:** LONDON CANBERRA WELLINGTON MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
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